

Announcement of Three Best Research Paper Awards on REIT Analysis

The Department of Real Estate at Baruch College, CUNY, and the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (NAREIT) are pleased to announce **three awards (\$15,000, \$10,000, and \$5,000)** for research papers on issues related to the operations and investment performance of Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) in today's capital markets. We hope to stimulate research on longer-term trends and shifting market fundamentals that recognize the heterogeneity of the equity REIT industry. Issues of interest include economies of scale and REIT versus private market governance.

We will convene a conference in New York in April, 2009 to bring together key academic real estate researchers, Wall Street analysts, and REIT industry professionals for a thorough review of the REIT market under current economic uncertainties. As such, we are requesting proposals for analytic/state-of-the-art papers to be presented at the conference and for possible subsequent publication in the *Journal of Real Estate Research* (if the papers also pass the regular review process). The three papers that win the awards will be presented at the conference. Two panels of experts, including senior REIT analysts from Wall Street and senior REIT executives, will comment on the papers.

Awards: Three papers will receive awards based on their innovativeness and quality of research. The first place award winner will receive \$15,000; second place \$10,000; and third place \$5,000. The winners of the awards are required to attend the conference; their transportation and lodging costs will be covered.

Application Process: Interested applicants should submit a research proposal (no more than two pages) to: Prof. Ko Wang, Chair, Department of Real Estate, Baruch College/CUNY, Ko_Wang@Baruch.Cuny.Edu. The proposal should be received no later than **August 31, 2008**. A panel of reviewers will make recommendations on the proposals by **September 15, 2008**. The author(s) of the three proposals that are judged to be of greatest interest will be encouraged to prepare a full article-length paper and power point slides for presentation at the conference. Final papers must be submitted by **March 25, 2009**. After receiving the final papers, the awards will be announced at the conference.